

DEVELOPING A CAPABLE PLANNER in the CORPS of ENGINEERS

Harry E. Kitch, P.E.
Chief, Guidance Development Branch
Planning and Policy Division
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Background

■ Need

- Nation needs water resources infrastructure
- Limited budgets require analysis for selection of best investments

■ Problem

- Recognition of the loss of planning expertise across Corps
- Need to reemphasize planning as an area of expertise

■ Solutions

- Basic and advanced training to bring planners to full performance

Planning Excellence Program

- **Strengthen Planning Capability and Leadership**
 - **Planner Training & Development**
 - Planning Leadership Development (Includes Senior Expert Positions)
 - Centers of Specialized Planning Expertise
- **Modernize Planning Processes and Tools**
 - Quality Assurance/Quality Control
 - Delegation of Approval Authority
 - Planning Model Improvement
 - Environmental Benefit Evaluation Procedures
 - Environmentally Sustainable Project Formulation
- **Re-establish National Water Policy Review**
 - Create Office of Water Policy Review

Planner Training & Development

- Planner Core Curriculum
- Planning Associates Program
- Masters Degree in Water Resources Planning and Management

Core Curriculum

- Planning Orientation Workshop
- Planning Process Workshop
- Plan Formulation Workshop
- Environmental Considerations in Planning
- Economic Analysis in Planning
- Hydrologic & Hydraulic Considerations in Planning
- Public Involvement & Teaming in Planning

FY03 Schedule of Core Courses

Planning Orientation	Mar 03
Planning Process	Mar 03, Jun 03
Plan Formulation	Oct 02, Jan 03, Apr 03
Public Involvement & Teaming	May 03, Jul 03
Environmental Considerations	Oct 02, Jan 03, Apr 03, May 03, Jul 03
H&H Considerations	Feb 03, Jul 03
Economic Analysis	Oct 02, Nov 02, Mar 03

Current schedule – subject to change

Planning Associates Program

- Develop planning leaders who can manage complex planning studies that lead to quality decision documents and who will provide water resources leadership in the future
 - leadership skills in communication, relationship building, teamwork, problem solving, critical thinking and decision making
 - perspective on water resources and the role of the Corps
 - network of contacts at all levels & regions of the Corps
 - broad technical overview of missions and project purposes.
 - development and application of water resources policy, and the authorization and appropriations processes

Features of PA Program

- Targeted to GS-12 and 13
- 15 weeks, conducted in 2-3 week sessions over 8 months
- Central funding for student labor, travel, and per diem
- **Course Modules**
 - Kick-off in Washington
 - Team Leadership and Team Building
 - Washington Experience
 - Instructional Methods
 - MSC Mission-Specific Modules
 - Wrap-Up and Graduation
- **Additional Experiences**
 - Strategic Group Project
 - Policy Review Assignment
 - Document Lessons Learned
 - Planning Training Instructor
 - Leadership Meeting

Masters in Water Resources Planning & Management

- Professional education in theory and practice of water resources planning – emphasis on advanced, broad education in water resources planning for Corps leadership positions.
 - Of interest to Engineering, O&M, PM as well as other water resources agencies
- Uses combination of residency at a degree-granting university, distance learning, and local courses

Master Program Requirements

- Students must enroll in participating university
- Program is limited to 30 semester hours
- Must complete 1 semester of residency at the university
- Universities agreed to accept up to 15 hours from other universities
- Costs are locally borne

Participating Universities

- Johns Hopkins University
- Southern Illinois University
- Washington State University
- University of Arizona
- Harvard and U of Florida are under discussion
- For additional information on a specific university, see:
www.iwr.usace.army.mil/iwr/plannersweb/degree.htm

Additional Information

- Planners' Resource web site *
www.iwr.usace.army.mil/iwr/plannersweb/
- Go to “training” tab & then Masters or Core
- MSC contacts for “signing up”
 - SWD – Larry Donovan
 - SPD – Robin Mooney
 - SAD – Wilbert Paynes
 - POD – Russ Iwamura
 - NWD – Kent Chesney
 - NAD – Larry Cocchieri
 - MVD – Susan Smith
 - LRD – Ray Gesling
 - HQ – Russ Rangos

* *Beta version – comments welcome*

Your Responsibilities

- Round out your own expertise with core or other courses
- Consider PA or Masters programs
- Spread the word
- Mentor others



QUESTIONS ?

